



Rain Barrel Rebate Guide

A rain barrel captures stormwater from downspouts and stores the water for future use. Rainwater collected from rain barrels can be used to water your garden, lawn, or even wash your car, bikes, and lawn furniture. Capturing this stormwater helps reduce the amount of polluted runoff that reaches our streams untreated. Using rainwater stored in a rain barrel can potentially save about 1,300 gallons of water during summer months, reducing stress on municipal water supplies and saving you money on your water bills.



Now you can save even more with the Lake Erie Stormwater Stewards Rebate Program!

How It Works

Rebates are awarded on a first come, first served basis after confirmation of completed installation and a final rebate application is received. You must complete pre-approval materials prior to installation. Completion of pre-approval materials does not guarantee a rebate. Any rain barrel installed must meet all program requirements for approval. Funding is limited.

See program website for eligibility requirements.

<https://crwp.org/lake-erie-stormwater-rebate/>

Rebate Amount

Max rebate amount: \$100. Rebate cannot exceed the costs of the rain barrel installation.





Rain Barrel Rebate Guide

Getting A Rebate Pre-Approval

1. Submit a program application at <https://crwp.org/lake-erie-stormwater-rebate/>. A program representative will reach out to start the approval process.
2. Review the [installation resources](#), [maintenance guide](#), and rebate requirements.
3. After reviewing your site, a program representative will confirm eligibility and provide recommendations. Participants will have 15 days from confirmation to submit the following information:
 - a. Before photos of barrel location
 - b. Signed maintenance agreement
 - c. Name of contractor you plan to use, if applicable
4. Receive approval, install your rain barrel, and submit a rain barrel rebate application.

Rain Barrel Criteria

- Must hold a minimum of 40 gallons.
- Must have an overflow mechanism.
- Must include a screened inlet or filter that helps prevent leaf debris and mosquito larvae from entering.
- Overflow must be directed to the original intended stormwater management area and away from neighboring properties, sidewalks, steep slopes, retaining walls, or building foundations.
- Rain barrel must comply with all community codes.





Rain Barrel Rebate Guide

Purchasing Your Rain Barrel

1. You must first obtain program approval before purchasing materials and services to be eligible for a rebate.
2. Purchase your rain barrel. Save all receipts for proof of purchase.
3. Second-hand purchasing of barrels is allowed, if the barrel meets all criteria and proof of payment is provided.



Installing Your Rain Barrel

1. Review the Rain Barrel Installation Resources.
2. Install your rain barrel according to manufacturer's instructions.
3. After installation is complete, take photos of your newly installed rain barrel to submit with your rebate application.

Completing the Rebate Process

1. Submit a Rain Barrel Rebate Application, post-installation photos, and proof of payment.
2. After obtaining program approval, receive and install program signage.
3. Optional: If you meet criteria for NEORSD's Stormwater Fee Credit program, apply to receive the fee credit.



Rain Barrel Rebate Guide



Resources

- [Cuyahoga SWCD Rain Barrel Installation Videos](#)
- [Lake Erie Stormwater Stewards Rebates Program Application](#)
- Rain Barrel Rebate Application ([form](#)) ([pdf](#))
- [Rain Barrel Maintenance Guide](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. *What happens if my rain barrel overflows?*
 - You can fit your rain barrel with an overflow hose adapter attached to a garden hose so the overflow can be directed to other landscaping in your yard.
2. *What about mosquitoes in my rain barrel?*
 - Installing a screen or lid on top of the rain barrel will help prevent mosquitoes. Mosquitoes need about 7-12 days of standing water to lay and hatch eggs, so keep water in the barrel no longer than a week.
3. *What do I do with my rain barrel in the winter?*
 - Empty the barrel and disconnect from the downspout during the winter. You can either store your rain barrel indoors, turn it upside down, or cover tightly to ensure water does not accumulate, freeze, and damage your rain barrel.